

Mrs. Welch, arrived at Quebec per "S.S. Mongolian," on August 30th, and spent the following week in the city as the guest of the Rev. L. W. Williams, M.A., rector of St. Matthew's Church, and Mrs. Williams. Mr. Welch took part on Sunday, the 1st inst., at the different services in St. Matthew's Church, being the celebrant at 7.30 a.m. and preacher at evensong. His sermon was a very able one, and on his first public appearance in Canada, made a very favourable impression.

MONTREAL.

WILLIAM B. BOND, D.D., BISHOP, MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—The sixteenth triennial session of the Provincial Synod was opened Wednesday morning with service in Christ Church Cathedral, the attendance of clerical and lay delegates being large. The bishops and clergy robed in the Chapter House, and headed by the choristers, proceeded to the main entrance to the cathedral, the familiar hymn, "The Church's One Foundation," being sung as they marched up the nave. The bishops present were those of Ontario, Niagara, Toronto, Huron, Algoma, Montreal, Quebec, Fredericton and Nova Scotia. The Bishops of Maine and Michigan were also in attendance.

The Litany was read by the Bishop of Quebec, and the sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Roe, of Windsor Mills, who took for his text Romans xiv. 19, "Let us follow after the things that make for peace and things whereby we may edify one another." The sermon, which was a very able one, was a plea for peace and unity in the Church.

At the celebration of the Holy Communion, which followed, the Epistle was read by the Bishop of Maine, and the Gospel by the Bishop of Toronto, the celebrant being the Bishop of Montreal.

The first session of the Synod was held in the afternoon in St. George's school-house. The bishops having entered the room, the proceedings were commenced with prayer, offered up by the Bishop of Quebec, after which the Bishop of Ontario, Metropolitan, addressed the house. He looked upon that Synod, he said, as having a very important task and duty before it during the present session. He need not, he thought, tell them of the great work which had been accomplished since they last met—the unification and consolidation of the Church from one end of the Dominion to the other. That was something to be very thankful for; but it was not yet consolidated as he thought it ought to be, and as it might be by future legislation. One of the most important tasks which would come before the Synod would be the adjusting of the relations between the Provincial Synod and the General Synod of Canada. At the last Synod His Lordship said that he had drawn attention to the fact that he did not quite see how this could be done, but "in a multitude of counsellors there is wisdom," and he was told that it would be all settled according to the rule of *solviter ambulandum*. He hoped that it might, but at all events it had to be looked into, because it would never do to have two district bodies legislating on the same topics. Another very important point would be the consideration of the present position of the missionary Diocese of Algoma, the bishop of which, he deeply regretted to say, was unable, on account of his health, to continue his work. A communication having been read from the Bishop of Algoma to the effect that his medical advisers had recommended him to withdraw from his present office, the Metropolitan said that it would be the duty of the Synod to take the whole subject into consideration. He was sure that they would do this in the best possible temper, with deep sympathy for the bishop and a determination to be as liberal as possible.

The bishops then withdrew to their deliberations, and Very Rev. Dean Carmichael, prolocutor, took the chair.

The first business was the calling of the roll of clerical and lay delegates, a list of which has already been published, the former being called by Canon Thornloe, clerical secretary, and the latter by Dr. L. H. Davidson, lay secretary.

The election of officers was next proceeded with, resulting as under:

Prolocutor—Very Rev. Dean Carmichael, Montreal.
Clerical Secretary—Canon Thornloe, Sherbroke.
Lay Secretary—Dr. L. H. Davidson, Montreal.
Treasurer—Mr. A. F. Gault, Montreal.
Auditors—Messrs. H. J. Mudge and Walter Drake, Montreal.

The prolocutor appointed Ven. Archdeacon Brigstocke as his deputy, and then proceeded to name the following as the nominating committee to recommend members of standing committees: Ven. Archdeacon Kaulbach, convener; Ven. Archdeacon Roe, Ven. Archdeacon Evans, Very Rev. Dean Innes, Very Rev. Dean Partridge, Rural Dean Bogert, Canon Bull, Rev. H. J. Broughall, Judge Fitzgerald, Hon. T. P. Burchill, Messrs. E. L. Bond, W. H. Carter, A. McLean Howard, Chas. Jenkins, R. T. Walkem, and J. J. Mason. The following were appointed a stand-

ing committee on the precedence of motions, notice of which had been given, and to see to the printing of the same: Canon Empson, Canon Von Iffland, Canon Cayley, Messrs. J. J. Mason, Geo. A. Schofield and Judge Savary.

The lay secretary announced that he had received the following memorials:

Diocese of Huron—In favour of the present Ecclesiastical Province of Canada being divided and the dioceses comprised in the civil Province of Ontario being formed into a separate ecclesiastical province.

Diocese of Huron—Notification of suspension of resolution in favour of creating a new diocese in Western Ontario, the suspension to hold until the question of the future of the Diocese of Algoma has been dealt with by the Synod.

Diocese of Niagara—Drawing attention to the fact that 1897 will be the 400th anniversary of the landing of Cabot on these shores, and praying that a form of service might be prepared and sanctioned for use either on the St. John the Baptist's Day or on the Sunday following, to commemorate the great event and as an acknowledgment of the blessings which have flowed therefrom.

Diocese of Algoma—Asking consent to take the necessary steps for the organizing of a Synod for that diocese, and to enact such measures as might be requisite to that end.

Diocese of Montreal—Better observance of the Lord's Day.

The memorials were received, and were ordered to be printed for circulation among the members of the Synod.

On the motion of Canon DuMoulin, the confirmation of a Canon regarding the representation of the missionary Diocese of Algoma at the Synod was concurred in, with the sanction of the House of Bishops. It provides that the diocese shall be represented by three clerical and three lay delegates.

The unfinished business left over from the last session of the Synod was then taken up, the first item being the consideration of the report of the joint committee on marriage and divorce. The report had reference to the right of the innocent party in a divorce to remarry.

Dr. Heneker moved that the matter be referred to the General Synod.

This was seconded by Judge Macdonald, who thought it would be utterly unreasonable that there should be one system for the Province of Canada, and possibly another in Rupert's Land and the other dioceses. He thought that for the sake of propriety, and certainly for the sake of convenience, it would be wise at once to dispose of the matter of turning it over to the General Synod, to which under any circumstances it would ultimately have to go.

Mr. R. T. Walkem was of opinion that it would be the height of absurdity for that Synod to lay down a canon on such a subject; it would not be concurred in by members of the Church in other parts of Canada. If that Synod were to debate the question for a week it would come to no satisfactory conclusion. He favoured the matter being referred to the General Synod.

Dean Partridge said that if the sense of the Synod were not so strong against him, he should have been prepared to move the adoption of the report.

Judge Fitzgerald thought that the Synod would best consult its own dignity either by taking the matter into consideration or letting it remain in abeyance, awaiting the authority of the Church in England on the matter, so that there would be one law throughout the Dominion.

Dr. Heneker amended his motion to read as under:—

"That it is the sense of this house that, owing to the present state of the question of marriage and divorce, and inasmuch as since the last session of this Synod the Church in Canada has been consolidated and unified and a general Synod formed for the whole of Canada, therefore, it would be unwise to proceed with the order, and that, the House of Bishops concurring, the order be discharged."

Dean Partridge moved, seconded by Judge Fitzgerald, to the effect that the report be referred back to the committee until next session of the Synod, with a view of making it more perfect, as legislation might progress on the subject in the mother country.

In making the motion, Dean Partridge pointed out that there were two courses open; one was for the Synod to take the matter up boldly and state its opinion upon it, and the other was for the Synod to give away its rights to the General Synod, without knowing whether or not the latter body would take it up.

Rev. Dr. Langtry thought that, whether they took the one course or the other, it would be a serious matter. He did not feel that there would be the least danger of conflict between that Synod and the General Synod, and he considered that it would be far better to refer the matter to the latter body than to discharge the order, which would be a step that would be morally injurious.

Mr. R. Bayly favoured the original motion.

Rev. Dr. Adams did not consider that the exist-

ence of the General Synod should prevent the Provincial Synod discussing the matter, but, at the same time, it was one thing to discuss a matter and another thing to decide upon it in the name of the Church. It seemed to him that the Provincial Synod could take up almost any subject which it felt was essential to the good of the Church. There were many things it could take up and move in, but which it could not finally decide upon. He did not think that they should pay too much attention to what was done in the matter in England, but should be guided by their own circumstances. He did not consider that any great harm would be done if the Church in Canada as a whole should pronounce on this important question.

M. R. Bayly moved, seconded by Mr. R. T. Walkem, that the matter be referred to the General Synod for consideration and such action, by way of legislation or otherwise, as commended itself to that body.

Judge Ermatinger moved, seconded by Col. Mattheson, that the debate on the question be postponed.

The prolocutor decided that the motion was out of order.

Col. Mattheson challenged the decision, and appealed to the House.

On the vote, being taken on Col. Mattheson's appeal, the decision of the prolocutor was sustained.

Judge Hanington pointed out that the circumstances had changed since the committee reported three years ago. He did not see the reason for the suggestion that the matter be referred back to the committee, as that body had already reported upon it.

Dr. Heneker said that his whole desire had been to uphold a principle. That Provincial Synod and others had agreed that there should be one general Synod for the management of the affairs of the whole Church. It was upon that ground that he had made his motion. The matter was not one for discussion by that Provincial Synod, but by the General Synod. He expressed his willingness to accept Mr. Bayly's amendment, as it embodied the general principle and carried out what he (the speaker) wished.

It now being six o'clock, the Synod adjourned.

During the session Dean Grisdale and Rev. Geo. Rogers, of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, were invited to seats on the platform. Rev. Dr. McGill, of Newport, R. I.; Rev. Robt. Plant, of the Diocese of Maine, and Rev. Mason Cox, of Cheltenham, Eng., were invited to seats on the floor of the House.

The following messages from the House of Bishops were received during the session, and such as required it were concurred in:—

"The delegates from the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States to be received at noon to-day."

"Appointment of the following on the board of preliminary enquiry: Ven. Archdeacon Brigstocke, Dr. Heneker, Mr. R. T. Walkem, Ven. Archdeacon Dixon, Very Rev. Dean Partridge, Mr. Strachan Bethune, Hon. G. W. Allan, Mr. V. Cronyn and Canon DuMoulin."

"Concurrence asked in the appointment of Messrs. R. T. Walkem, T. P. Butler and John A. Worrell as assessors in the Court of the Metropolitan."

"Notice of the appointment of Rev. J. G. Baylis as Secretary to the House of Bishops during the present session."

"Notice of the adoption of the report of the Board of Examiners in degrees of Divinity, and also of the adoption of the alterations recommended by the examiners to be made in the Canon relating thereto."

"Concurrence in the Canon relating to the representation at the Provincial Synod of the Diocese of Algoma."

(To be continued.)

ONTARIO.

F. T. LEWIS, D.D., LL.D., ARCHBISHOP OF ONT., KINGSTON.

ADOLPHUSTOWN.—A special vestry meeting was held in St. Alban's Church hall on Monday, 1st September, for the purpose of filling the vacancies caused by the death of Capt. Chalmers, churchwarden and lay delegate. Frank Chalmers, reeve, was with the hearty approval of all present appointed by the rector to succeed his lamented father as clergyman's churchwarden. Alfred Tavenor was by the cordial vote of the vestry elected lay delegate to the Synod. Thomas Gibbs was elected vestry clerk in the room of Frank Chalmers, resigned. The following preamble and resolutions, moved by Churchwarden S. M. Outwater, and seconded by Thomas Gibbs, were carried by a standing vote of the vestry, with evident signs of deep feeling:

"That whereas it has pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst by the hand of death, Capt. James Chalmers, an old member of this church, churchwarden for twenty-three years, and Synod's man, and our hearts have been deeply moved thereby; therefore,